

February 5, 2018

The regular meeting of the Decorah City Council was called to order by Mayor Lorraine Borowski at 5:45 p.m.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Randy Schissel, Dan Bellrichard, Andy Carlson, Steve Luse, Johanna Bergan, Ross Hadley. Absent: Kirk Johnson.

Motion by Bellrichard, second by Luse, to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Andy Nimrod, Park and Recreation Director, reviewed the annual department report.

Motion by Carlson, second by Bellrichard, to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

- a. Minutes of the January 12, January 15, and January 16, 2018 meetings
- b. Claims
- c. PPE #4 Hwy 9 & 52 Water/Sewer Ext - \$2,267.68
- d. PPE #2 Dug Road Trail Repair - \$56,194.85
- e. Renewal Class E Liquor License for Fareway including Class B Wine and Class C Beer privileges
- f. Renewal Class C Liquor License for Oneota Lanes including Sunday Sales
- g. Renewal Special Class C Beer/Wine License for Java J's including Class B Wine, Outdoor Service Area and Sunday Sales privileges
- h. Renewal Special Class C Beer/Wine Permit for Mabes including Sunday Sales
- i. Resolution 2864 setting a date for the proposed FY19 budget – *March 5, 2018, 5:45 pm*
- j. Accept FY17 Audit Report

Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Ordinance 1214 amending Ordinance 1170 designating an area of Decorah, Iowa as the 2014 Decorah Housing Urban Revitalization Area was introduced and read for the third time. Motion by Bellrichard, second by Luse, to approve the third and final reading placing the ordinance on its final adoption. Roll call vote. Voting aye: Bellrichard, Luse, Bergan, Hadley. Voting nay: Schissel, Carlson. Motion carried.

Consideration of an engagement letter with Ahlers & Cooney Attorneys, for legal consultation in relation to electric and telecommunications utilities was opened for discussion.

Councilperson Carlson expressed concern that perhaps we are getting ahead of ourselves. That we should wait for the results of the referendum.

Councilperson Bergan stated she believes we are at a different place with the proposed telecommunications utility than we are with electric. Doesn't want to spend funds with electric questions at this time.

Attorney Anderson explained this is a unique area of law and extremely specialized. He stated it's important for the city to do its own due diligence – that we need our own legal counsel to advise the city. We need to go into this with eyes wide open and it's prudent to use this firm early in the process.

Motion by Schissel, second by Bellrichard to approve the proposed engagement letter with Ahlers & Cooney not to exceed \$15,000 for expenses associated with the proposed electric and telecommunications utilities. Roll call vote. Voting aye: Schissel, Bellrichard, Luse, Bergan, Hadley. Voting nay: Carlson. Motion carried.

Motion by Carlson, second by Hadley, to approve a professional services agreement with McClure Engineering for a sidewalk planning study not-to-exceed \$16,750 pending receipt of Exhibit B noted in the agreement. Roll call vote. Voting aye: Carlson, Hadley, Schissel, Luse, Bergan. Voting nay: Bellrichard. Motion carried.

Motion by Schissel, second by Luse, to approve a professional services agreement with McClure Engineering for a corridor planning study not-to-exceed \$35,000 pending receipt of Exhibit B noted in the agreement. Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Luse, second by Bellrichard, to approve the following re-appointment and appointment to the Human Rights Committee:

- Re-appointment – Melissa Koch
- Appointment – Lisa Scott


Motion by Schissel, second by Luse, to approve the following appointment to the TIF/LMI Commission:

- Habitat for Humanity re-appointment – Pat Running
- Mayor re-appointment – Jan Heikes

Roll call vote. All voting aye. Motion carried.

Ann Bulkley, Concentric Energy Advisors and Terry Kouba, Vice President Operations, Alliant Energy, reviewed the Decorah Municipalization Feasibility Analysis with Council. A copy of the analysis is on file in the City Clerks Office or may be viewed on-line at [www.alliantenergy.com/Decorah](http://www.alliantenergy.com/Decorah) or [www.decorahia.org](http://www.decorahia.org)

Meeting adjourned on motion.

  
Wanda Hemesath, MMC  
City Clerk, Tr.